

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A polylactic acid resin composition characterized by comprising a polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body consisting of a lamellar clay mineral and one of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is bonded to the lamellar clay mineral, and

the other of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is not bonded to the lamellar clay mineral.

2. (Original) The polylactic acid resin composition according to claim 1, characterized in that the polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body is a polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body consisting of a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group, and one of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is bonded to the lamellar clay mineral through the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt.

3. (Currently Amended) The polylactic acid resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body is poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body or poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, obtained by mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizable monomers of L-lactic acid and/or L-lactide or polymerizable monomers of D-lactic acid and/or D-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site.

4. (Original) A process for producing a polylactic acid resin composition, characterized by comprising a polymerizing step of mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizable monomers of L-lactic acid and/or L-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site to obtain poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, and a mixing step of mixing the poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body with poly-D-lactic acid which is not bonded to the lamellar clay mineral.

5. (Original) A process for producing a polylactic acid resin composition, characterized by comprising a polymerizing step of mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizable monomers of D-lactic acid and/or D-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site to obtain poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, and a mixing step of mixing the poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body with poly-L-lactic acid which is not bonded to the lamellar clay mineral.

6. (Original) A molded article characterized in that the molded article is obtained by melt molding and crystallizing a polylactic acid resin composition which comprises a polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body consisting of a lamellar clay mineral and one of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is bonded to the lamellar clay mineral, and the other of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is not bonded to the lamellar clay mineral.

7. (Original) The molded article according to claim 6, characterized in that the molded article is a polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body consisting of a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group, and one of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid which is bonded to the lamellar clay mineral through the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt.

8. (Currently Amended) The molded article according to claim ~~6 or~~ 7, characterized in that the polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body is poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body or poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, obtained by mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizing monomers of L-lactic acid and/or L-lactide or polymerizable monomers of D-lactic acid and/or D-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site.

9. (Currently Amended) The molded article according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 8~~claim 6, characterized in that a stereocrystals ratio $\{(\Delta H_m, \text{stereo})/(\Delta H_m, \text{homo} + \Delta H_m, \text{stereo})\} \times 100(\%)$, determined from a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{homo}$) of a homocrystals melting peak and a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{stereo}$) of a stereocrystals melting peak measured by DSC measurement, is 0.9X% or more, wherein X is two times the value which is a smaller one of the content (A%) of poly-L-lactic acid and the content (B%) of poly-D-lactic acid, provided that $A + B = 100\%$.

10. (New) The polylactic acid resin composition according to claim 2, characterized in that the polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body is poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body or poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, obtained

by mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizable monomers of L-lactic acid and/or L-lactide or polymerizable monomers of D-lactic acid and/or D-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site.

11. (New) The molded article according to claim 7, characterized in that the polylactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body is poly-L-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body or poly-D-lactic acid-lamellar clay mineral bonded body, obtained by mixing a lamellar clay mineral organized with an organic onium salt having a hydroxyl group with polymerizing monomers of L-lactic acid and/or L-lactide or polymerizable monomers of D-lactic acid and/or D-lactide, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomers with the hydroxyl group of the organic onium salt as a reaction site.

12. (New) The molded article according to claim 7, characterized in that a stereocrystals ratio $\{(\Delta H_m, \text{stereo})/(\Delta H_m, \text{homo} + \Delta H_m, \text{stereo})\} \times 100(\%)$, determined from a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{homo}$) of a homocrystals melting peak and a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{stereo}$) of a stereocrystals melting peak measured by DSC measurement, is 0.9X% or more, wherein X is two times the value which is a smaller one of the content (A%) of poly-L-lactic acid and the content (B%) of poly-D-lactic acid, provided that $A + B = 100\%$.

13. (New) The molded article according to claim 8, characterized in that a stereocrystals ratio $\{(\Delta H_m, \text{stereo})/(\Delta H_m, \text{homo} + \Delta H_m, \text{stereo})\} \times 100(\%)$, determined from a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{homo}$) of a homocrystals melting peak and a melting endotherm ($\Delta H_m, \text{stereo}$) of a stereocrystals melting peak measured by DSC measurement, is 0.9X% or

more, wherein X is two times the value which is a smaller one of the content (A%) of poly-L-lactic acid and the content (B%) of poly-D-lactic acid, provided that $A + B = 100\%$.